ACTION AGAINST OFFICER OF FARIDABAD TELECOM. DISTRICT

2482. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain officials of the Faridabad Telecom. District have been prosecuted recently by the Consumer Court for their lapses on various charges; if so, the full details thereof;

(b) what Departmental action has been taken against those officials so far; and

(c) whether certain officials continue to remain posted in Faridabad Telecom District for over five years due to political pressures; if so, the facts thereof and what concrete measures are being taken to improve administrative functioning of the Faridabad District Telecom Office ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The lapses pointed out by the Consumer Court related to delay in providing telephone connections and delay in implementation of the Consumer Court orders.

(b) Departmental Action has been initiated to fix the responsibility.

(c) No officials continue to remain posted in Faridabad Telecom. District for over five years due to political pressure. For strengthening the administrative set up, Faridabad Telecom. District is now headed by the Senior Administrative Grade officer.

नई टेलीफोन निर्देशिका

2483. **श्री सुशील कुमार संभाजीराव शिन्दे :** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लिमिटेड कब तक नई टेलीफोन निर्देशिका प्रकाशित करने का विचार रखता है;

(ख) क्या इस टेलीफोन निर्देशिका में फैक्स नम्बर भी शामिल किए जायेंगे ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) दिल्ली और बंबई के लिए टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरी का अगला संस्करण क्रमश: मई/जून, 1994 और जुलाई, 94 तक जारी किए जाने की संभावना है ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) उपर्युक्त भाग (ख) के उत्तर को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) अखिल भारतीय फैक्स डायरेक्टरी अलग से प्रकाशित की जा रही है ।

OPENING OF NEW POST OFFICES IN MADHYA PRADESH

2484. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the criteria followed for opening of new post offices in the urban, rural and tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) whether it is a fact that New Post Offices are not being opened due to non-availability of accommodation and funds ;

(c) what is the present number of Post Offices and the average number of people served by each post office ; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to open more post offices in Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The criteria prescribed for opening new post offices in Urban, Rural and Tribal areas are given in the Statement (*see* below).

(b) Post Offices are opened according to Departmental norms, availability of funds and annual targets fixed. Non-availability of accommodation is not a constraint in opening post offices in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) As on 30th September, 1993 there were 11190 Post Offices in Madhya Pradesh and each Post Office serves an average population of 5910.

(d) During the 8th Five Year Plan, Post Offices will be opened at places where there is justification according to norms and subject to availability of funds and allocation of target by the Planning Commission.

STATEMENT

Criteria/Norms fixed for opening of new Branch Post Offices in Rural Areas including Tribal Areas

(1) Population :

(a) In Normal Areas.—3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO villages).

(b) In the Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas.—500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

(2) Distance :

(a) In Normal Areas.—The minimum distance from the nearest existing Post Office will be 3 Kms.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas.—The distance limit will be the same as above except that in Hilly Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation if warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

(3) Anticipated Income :

(a) In Normal Areas.—The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33-1/3 per cent of cost.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas.—The minimum anticipated income will be 15 per cent of the cost.

(4) The norms for opening new Departmental Sub Post Offices :

(a) The minimum of work load of the Extra Departmental Branch Post Office should be five hours per day.

(b) The permissible annual loss should be not more than Rs. 2400 in normal rural areas and Rs. 4800 in Tribal and Hilly areas. However, in Urban Areas, the Post Office should be initially self supporting and at the time of the first annual review it should show 5 per cent profit to be eligible for further retention.

(c) The minimum distance between two post offices should be 1.5 Kms. in cities with a population of 20 lakhs and above, and 2 Kms. in other urban areas. No two delivery offices however, should be closer than 5 Kms. from each other. Heads of Circles have powers to relax the distance condition in 10 per cent of the cases.

(d) A Delivery Post Office in Urban Area should have a minimum of 7 Postmen's beats.

TRANSMISSION OF TELEGRAMS IN TAMIL

2485. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the languages in which telegrams are transmitted ; and

(b) what are the steps taken to introduce transmission of telegrams in Tamil language ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Transmission of telegrams is permitted in all languages. However, the script should be Roman or Devnagari.

(b) Introduction of telegrams in Tamil Script has been approved and will be introduced on experimental basis.

PROPOSAL FOR INSTALLATION OF REMOTE SWITCHING UNITS

2486. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the C-DOT has developed a remote switching unit ;